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gerald.zwarich@exeloncorp.com on 10/12/2001 10:59:44 AM

To: ymp_sr@ymp.gov
cc:

Subject: Yucca Mountain Repository

Part of Records Package / Supplement / Correction

October 12, 2001

Ms. Carol Hanlon
S&ER Products Manager
U. S. Department of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
P.O. Box 30307 M/S 025
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0707

Dear Ms. Hanlon:

I am writing to ask that the Department of Energy recommend to President George Bush that the site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada be designated the national repository for high-level radioactive waste and spent fuel.

Many years of effort have been spent on siting a national disposal facility and the Department has identified a suitable location. Storing high-level radioactive waste at one location is a better option than continuing to accumulate spent nuclear fuel at more than 70 sites throughout the nation.

The nuclear industry has been handling, storing and transporting spent nuclear fuel for years and the containers used for these purposes have been designed and built to specifications that can withstand extreme conditions. These containers have been put through exhaustive testing and have an outstanding record of safety and performance.

The National Academy of Sciences recently affirmed that the geologic disposal is the only scientifically and technically credible solution to the high-level radioactive waste storage issue. The scientific evidence concludes that Yucca Mountain meets or exceeds the criteria for this type of facility.

It seems that the Yucca Mountain repository has become more of a political question than a scientific one. The current war on terrorism increases the likelihood of oil interruptions from the Mideast. Especially during these times we should be doing all we can to foster energy independence instead of throwing up roadblocks to the power industry.

For these reasons, I urge the Department to recommend the Yucca Mountain site to the President.

Sincerely,

Jerry Zwarich
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